Times' of the 6th July, 1989 captioned 'power funds returned for want of approval' ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that substantial amounts of unutilized funds were returned to the Finance Ministry by the Department of Power during the last three financial years;

(c) if so, what were the reasons therefor when the country is facing power shortage; and

(d) what is the expected fund utilization by the Department of Power during the current year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During the year 1987-88 and 1988-89 the Department of Power had surrendered Rs. 444.72 crores and Rs. 134.93 crores respectively. The reason for surrender during 1987-88 was the economy cut imposed by the Ministry of Finance/Planning Commission. During 1988-89, the funds were surrendered due to delay in award of the contracts in respect of two schemes of National Thermal Power Corporation and non-utilisation of funds for few schemes of Inter-State Transmission Lines on account of delay in receipt of forest clearance and slow progress in work.

(d) The Department of Power is expected to utilise the funds fully during the current financial year.

Manufacture of automatic transmissions for buses by Hindustan Motor Limited

638. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state *t*

(a) whether it is a fact that the Power Products Division of Hindustan Motors Ltd. has started manufacture of automatic transmissions for buses in collaboration with Allison Transmission Division of General Motors Corporation of the United States; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise- '

High Voltage DC project of BHEL

639. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL has undertaken High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Project during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether this project would minimise the loss of power transmission and if so, to what extent," and

(d) in what manner Government propose to implement this project without cost escalation and time over-run within stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) The execution of the High Voltage Direct Current HVDC project has been entrusted to BHEL by NTPC. The Project envisages transmission of 1500 MW of power from Rihand Thermal Power Complex to Dadri (near Delhi) over Direct Current Transmission line at a High Voltage of 4+500